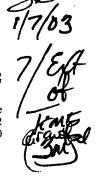


BARNES & THORNBURG

600 One Summit Square Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802 (260) 423-9440



PATENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Customer No.:

23641

Application No.: 09/406,290

Confirmation

No.:

1448

Filing Date:

September 24, 1999

Attorney

Docket No.:

37168-82045

First Named

Inventor:

Stephen H. Lewis

Group Art

Unit:

3627

Examiner

Name:

Christopher R. Buchanan

Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS

FOR PROVIDING

RETIREMENT INCOME

BENEFITS

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

GROUP 3600

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Box Non-Fee Amendment **Assistant Commissioner of Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants petition the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated July 1, 2002, for three (3) months from October 1, 2002 to January 1, 2003.

12/30/2002 AADDF01 00000052 09406290

01 FC:1253

920.00 OP

FWDS01 BBG 161693

As required, the appropriate fee of \$920.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(a)(3) is submitted herewith. Please credit any over payments or charge any additional fees to the Deposit Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Account No. 02-1010 (37168/82045).

Respectfully submitted,

Bobby B, Gillenwater

Reg. No. 31, 105

(260) 425-4649